



Oklahoma Crop Weather

Oklahoma Field Office

Cooperating with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry

P.O. Box 528804 · Oklahoma City, OK 73152-8804

(405) 522-6190 · FAX (405) 528-2296 · www.nass.usda.gov/ok

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Monthly Summary for Feb 1 - Feb 24, 2013

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Snow and Rain Improved Crop Conditions, Drought Continued

Multiple rain and snow events throughout February provided improvements to soil moisture conditions. A storm came through February 12, with the heaviest rainfall totals up to an inch in southern Oklahoma. Snow was also falling in the north and the west but most melted quickly, though totals as high as 5 inches in the Panhandle and far western Oklahoma were observed. February 20-21 two separate snowfall events accumulated as much as 13.5 inches in Alva, with widespread snowfall across the

state at varying amounts. The Panhandle observed snow totals up to 12 inches in localized areas on the 21st. Another system moved into the state beginning Sunday night the 24th, with totals still to be seen. Precipitation totals for the month to date averaged 2.13 inches for the state. These totals only include rain and melted snow through February 24th. McAlester recorded 3.54 inches for the period, while Kenton in the Panhandle recorded only 0.26 of an inch. Although the precipitation for the last 30 days has been above normal, statewide precipitation for the period since September 1st was only 63 percent of normal, ranging from 55 percent of normal in the North Central district to 77 percent of normal in the Panhandle. Some improvements to crop conditions were reported, with wheat, canola and rye moving from mostly poor to very poor in January to mostly fair to poor in February. This allowed for a small increase in the amount of the crop being grazed, though grazing was reported to be significantly less than normal. Pasture condition ratings have not yet shown significant improvements, though some areas have reported new growth in winter forage from the last few snow and rain events. Overall some recharge of ponds and lakes has occurred, but water levels are still very low. Topsoil moisture conditions improved greatly from January, with 43 percent rated adequate and even two percent rated surplus. Subsoil moisture conditions were still rated mostly very short, with nine percent rated adequate.

Soil Moisture Conditions by Percent

For Month Ending February 24, 2013

Moisture Rating	Subsoil	Topsoil
Very Short	66	24
Short	25	31
Adequate	9	43
Surplus	0	2

Small Grains: Conditions of small grains and canola improved over the past month due to the available moisture. Wheat, canola and rye conditions were rated mostly fair to poor while oats were still rated mostly poor to very poor. Only 26 percent of the **wheat** crop was being grazed, 19 points below 2012 and 10 points below the five-year average. Thirty-seven percent of **rye** was reported as grazed, 27 points less than normal. Fourteen percent of **oats** were being grazed, compared to 42 percent of oats grazed last year, and a five-year average of 19 percent.

Pasture and Range: Pasture and range conditions continued to be rated poor to very poor for the month of February. The impacts of recent precipitation remain to be seen.

Livestock: Producers continued to provide hay and supplementary feed to herds, due to the limited availability of winter forage. Pond levels have improved for some, but overall the availability of water is still a major concern for livestock producers. Livestock conditions continued to be rated mostly in the good to fair range.

Conditions by Percent

For Month Ending February 24, 2013

Commodity	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat	19	35	37	9	0
Canola	27	30	40	3	0
Rye	26	23	46	5	0
Oats	39	27	27	7	0
Livestock	4	18	48	28	2
Pasture and Range	46	36	15	3	0

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Crop Progress by Percent
For Month Ending February 24, 2013

Crop and Event	2013	2012	5 Year Average
Wheat - Grazed	26	45	36
Rye - Grazed	37	70	64
Oats - Grazed	14	42	19

Weather for Month Ending February 24, 2013: Temperatures ranged from -2 degrees at Hooker on Friday, February 22nd, to 75 degrees at Waurika on Sunday, February 17th and at Antlers on Monday, February 18th. Precipitation ranged from 1.08 of an inch in the Panhandle district to 2.91 inches in the Southeast district. Soil temperature averages ranged from 34 degrees at Vinita on Friday, February 1st, at Sallisaw on Thursday, February 21st, at Hinton, Kingfisher and Watonga on Friday, February 22nd, at Blackwell on Saturday, February 23rd and at Beaver on Sunday, February 24th, to 60 degrees at Burneyville on Thursday, February 7th.

Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data

For Month Ending February 24, 2013

District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Month Feb 1 to Feb 24	Sep 1, 2012 to Feb 24, 2013		
					Total	Departure From Normal	Percent of Normal
	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Panhandle	51	22	37	1.08	4.75	-1.45	77
West Central	53	28	40	2.21	7.86	-2.45	76
Southwest	56	30	43	1.99	7.45	-4.23	64
North Central	51	25	38	1.81	6.16	-4.99	55
Central	54	29	42	2.15	9.58	-5.97	62
South Central	58	34	46	2.47	10.78	-7.23	60
Northeast	52	28	40	1.84	11.03	-6.55	63
East Central	54	32	43	2.71	12.99	-7.73	63
Southeast	57	33	45	2.91	14.30	-9.87	59

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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

USDA-NASS
Oklahoma Field Office
PO Box 528804
Oklahoma City, OK 73152-8804

